# THE EXCITER

***Formerly Called Gutter Dope, Established in 1934.***

***Published Free of Charge Monthly by The San Antonio Radio Club.***

VOL. 4, NO. 4 MAY, 1961 SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

## MAY CLUB MEETINGS ON THE 5th & 19th 8 P.M. AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE PERRY SHANKLE CO., 1801 S. FLORES ST.

### DOOR PRIZES

Door prizes at the 7 April meeting were won as follows: $2.50 certificate from Radio & TV Parts Co. won by W5EWF, $2.50 certificate from Sherman Electronics Supply won by W5EJT, $2.50 certificate from Bill Case Sound won by W5OZQ, $5.00 certificate from Modern Electronics won by W5HHE, and the Printed Circuit board from Irving Electronics was won by W5IWE. Then at the 21 April meeting the Radio & TV Parts Co. $2.50 certificate was won by W5HHE, Sherman Electronics Supply $2.50 certificate by W5EXZ, Bill Case Sounds' $2.50 certificate by K5UGU, Modern Electronics Co. $5.00 certificate was claimed by K5MOF and the Printed Circuit board from Irving Electronics was won by K5RZD. Be sure to attend the next meeting. You may be a winner.

### STEN CONVENTION

The 16th Annual STEN Convention will be held at Victoria, Texas on June 10 & 11. There will be a big pre-convention party at the Central Power & Light Park on Friday the 9th. The program we have seen looks very interesting. Be sure to bring the XYL because there will be special entertainment for the ladies. For complete information write Lou Shaffstall, P. O. Box 3071, Victoria, Texas.

### FIELD DAY

The San Antonio Radio Club has received permission for the City of San Antonio, bless them, to set up our Field Day operations at Woodlawn Lake. Of course the lake will be dry, the duck hunting poor and the fishing lousy, but if you are interested in having a lot of fun be sure to be on hand the weekend of 24-25 June. As usual Murphy's Law will be in effect. What you don't know Murphy's Law? It states "If anything can go wrong, It will!" I wonder if we could get this law repealed?

Meanwhile, this is the one time of the year when amateurs all over the United States get a chance to publicly demonstrate the role that they can play in public service. It is also an opportunity to do some public relations work for amateur radio in general.

There are still operating positions open for everyone that is interested. Your favorite mode or band will be available and if you only have a couple of hours to spare come on out and join in for the time you have available. If you are a real hardy soul, you can camp out overnight in the wilds of Woodlawn Lake. The editor plans to rough it in a 15 foot camp trailer.

If you would like to furnish some of the equipment, operate or keep the logs be sure to call Gene Jank, W5EJT, at DI 2-2225. Gene is the Field Day Chairman and is in charge of getting the people and equipment together. He would like to hear from you. Remember you *don't* have to be

Editor K5PKX
VHF Editor W5LFM
DX Editor W5LGG
Mobile Editor W5EJT
Novice Editors K5RNN and K5RNO
Advertising Manager K5VCR
Circulation Manager K5OPT
The Exciter is published monthly free of charge by the San Antonio Radio Club. Address any correspondence to Box 62, San Antonio 6, Texas.
THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB W5SC
W5HHE, Pres. W5IWE, V. P.
K5VCR, Sec. K5TYI, Treas.
W5DKF, Program chairman

member of the SARC to participate with the group. And, as always, W5SC will listen for your call on all bands 80 thru 2.

## VHF AND UP

As it is well know, the IGY was picked as a period for special observation throughout the world as sunspot activity would be at its peak. The 18 month "year" ended in Dec. '58. A new "year" to be known as International Quiet Sun Year, or IQSY, is to begin in July '64 and run for 18 months until Dec. '65. This period of observation will occur during the minimum of the present sunspot cycle and will be the first intensive study during such a minimum. At this time, it is not known if radio amateurs will participate as during the IGY.

Have you seen the new U.S. 4-cent stamp Communications for Peace? It depicts a radio signal being bounced off the 100 ft. ECHO I satellite.

On 7 April '61, there was good sporadic E to the north and east. The following stations which were coming in can be used as clues for possible Es reaching up toward 50 mc. WWI, 30.005 mc., Havana, Ill., page stations are 35.2, 35.58 and 43.58 mc. which are scattered across the U.S., WWI, 49.98 mc. and CH-2 TV stations.

For some time now, Jay Webber, K5RGO, has been reporting strange signals at the upper end of 6 meters. While tuning around for TRANSIT II on 54 mc. on 11 April, the writer ran across this old signal, first on 53 mc. at 2008 CST. The signal was broadband noise about a half mc. wide which peaked at 60 db. above receiver noise. There was virtually no fading present and the signal lasted about 20 min.

At 2039, the signal appeared at 52.1 mc. with noise and video-type modulation for 15 min. The signal continued to hop around the upper end of 6 meters rising to 70 db. above noise at 54 mc. on a SP-600. On CH-2 TV, the signal was like a herringbone pattern using only an indoor whip for an antenna. At 2129 the signal abruptly cut off for the evening. Has anyone else heard this mysterious signal?

While in the Frisco area recently, the writer learned from W6QYT of the Radioscience lab, Stanford University, of the tragic electrocution of Phil Gallagher. Phil was responsible for much of the amateur work done in connection with the past SMOKE-PUFF experiments to produce an artificial ionosphere.

The accident occured while working on a transmitter which covers 20-60

**MODERN ELECTRONICS CO.**
2000 BROADWAY SAN ANTONIO
SAN ANTONIO CA 7-7388 CORPUS CHRISTI TU 4-5276 AUSTIN GR 6-9193

2 CENTRAL ELECTRONICS 10B's @ ..... $100.00
NATIONAL NC-240D ..... $140.00
2 ELMAC PMR 6 @ ..... $ 70.00
PIERSON KE-93 RCVR. WITH AC SUPPLY ..... $220.00

FRED K5ENK PAUL K5OHG JIM K5TYI

mc. and is one of the most powerful in this range. In 1960, radar echoes were obtained from the sun for the first time using 25 mc. and 4 broadside rhombics. Death was caused by contact with 5000 volts and it behooves us all to be extremely cautious with all high voltages. We are all allowed just one fatal mistake. Regards for now. Cal Graf, W5LFM, DI 4-3032.

## DX NOTES

New DVCC Countries—Kure Island and East Pakistan have been added to the official country list according to a March 30 Bulletin from ARRL. Confirmations will be accepted after July 1, 1961. The long delay, of course, is to enable overseas DX'ers to have an equal chance to get in their cards for Honor Roll credit.

New African Prefixes—Here are the origins of those exotic new prefixes you have been hearing the past few weeks. TL8 is the Central African Republic (formerly FQ8); TN8 is the French Congo Republic (also formerly FQ8); TT8 is the Tchad Republic and TU2 is the Ivory Coast Republic. Tchad was formerly FQ8, while Ivory Coast has been FF4, previously FF8. Worked them yet?

Malpelo DX-pedition—This fantastic episode was a great success despite mediocre band conditions and great physical hazards for the HK0TU crew for 3 days and nights of continuous downpour, this hardy crew operated two stations from hole-in-the-wall caves 200 feet up on the sheer rock cliffs of this foreboding rock. These caves opened toward the east; with the result that the HK0TU crew had difficulty in working W5, W6, W7 and W0 stations. Many of the local gang managed QSO's, however, after hours of calling. Contrary to previous instructions, QSL's go to HK3LX, not to the Swani Radio Club.

Your DX Editor (just call me "Lucky Pierre") may be a national winner in last falls' QS Phone Contest. W5LGG is listed as the USA leader for 28 Mc. phone in the claimed scores. It's too early for congratulations, however, until the final results are released. This proves a point; one should always submit a contest log no matter how small the score, you never know when you might come-a-cropper!

73 & DX,
Len, W5LGG

## FORTY METERS

The forty meter band has been rather normal at times, however most of the time it has been out of kilter with foreign broadcast stations taking over. In spite of all of this some DX has been worked on the phone band while the CW portion has also been fruitful for the DX hunters. DX stations worked recently on the phone band include: ZL 1CA—Henry, VK3-ADB—Dave, ZL1AMO—Ron, JA1-AEA — Jimmy, KH6ATT — Ken & K5DDX/KL7—Bill.

**RADIO & TELEVISION PARTS CO.**

**1828 N. St. Mary's St. CA 6-5329 or CA 7-7503**

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

**Globe Mobiline Six—Complete 6 Meter Transceiver with VFO or Crystal control, 20 watts input, operates from 6 or 12 VDC or 115 VAC. Only $249.95 less Microphone. Also in stock the new Cushcraft 10 element 6 meter beam. Get yours now and don't miss out on the DX.**

During the last couple of weeks K5OCW, K5MZH and W5OMR have been running a series of test on antennas. The experiments have been quite interesting, at least on a portion of the tests. East and West beams have been selected and the front to back ratios checked.

There are some newcomers to the city, some for a temporary visit and others just moved to town: W5KXZ —Carter, K5OXV—Jake, K5DNE—Roy (a new general licensee), XE2DS —Ken was a visitor on 22 April. W5KXZ, Carter, has a new set of Apache mobile twins.

Also heard on the band were the following locals: W5DBN (Marion, who is working on a forty meter beam), K5DXB, K5YHX, W5FAK, K5DSQ, K5ENK/M, W5SQR, W5-NGE, W5EZY, K5HYF, K5ZRQ, K5YJA, K5CGL & K5QFH. Early morning band conditions have been so good that K5MZH, oby, was able to run an hour phone patch from KL7 land for some of the servicemen stationed in the Aleutian Islands. Anybody looking for forty meter contacts with KL7 land should be able to do so between the hours of 0700-0800 GMY daily on 7273. Bill, K5DDX/-KL7 will be on frequency.

Anybody desiring to take a look at a beautiful work of art and an antenna that really works out on forty should drive by the 1700 block of Donaldson Avenue and take a look at the 40 meter rotatable quad built by W5IYA, Mitch. Hope to have some pictures of this before long.

73, Aubrey, K5MOF

## IT SEEMS TO ME

That a lot of you fellows are not a proud of your call as you could be. Jerry Barry (K5AXN) at Radio & TV Parts Co. has something new awaiting your orders. It's a tie clasp that need no tie. This etched metallic piece of jewelry sells for only $2.95. For you super-dudes there is a matching set of cuff links.

(Paid Adv.)

## NOTICE NOTES

Has anyone noticed the absence of the Novice Notes from the Exciter? Confucious say, "Man who have no news cannot write news." So how about it fellows. Let's not be bashful. Wouldn't you like to see your name in print in the Exciter and win everlasting fame? Man, who wouldn't, Hi. Here are two results from the recent FCC appearance in San Antonio. Drop the N from their calls are K5ENU, Frank Fees; and Carlos Mercado, K5GJU. Congratulations, Fellows.

This week we hear from the Central Catholic High School Radio Club. They have two complete stations which they operate on their favorite ham band which is ten meters. Members who have calls are Jim Burkholder, K5UGU; K5YHX, Doug Brooke; K5WLQ, Jim Heye; KN5-CMO, Steve Hitzfielder; and K5ENT, Tony Brooke. The club sponsor is

**Sherman Electronics Supply, Inc.**

**722 SAN PEDRO**

**CA 6-0247**

See us for Complete stock of Sylvania Semiconductors,

Transistors, Diodes & Rectifier; Sprague Coaxial Capacitors;

Centralab—60° & 90° Indexing Ham Switches

LARRY K5FQA, FOREST K5FQB, RAY K5ENP

Brother Gregory DeMorre, a long time Ham. Now that we have heard from Central, Jefferson and St. Anthony's Seminary we would like to hear from any other schools that have radio clubs. We always are on the lookout for any prospective hams so if any of you fellows who are reading this column don't have a ticket give us a call on the landline and we will see what we can do about it.

We had a visit with Roger, K5COV, now with the U.S. Army and he says that after his training he will be able to copy 35 words a minute and be able to do it on a typewriter no less.

As you can see from all the clubs springing up in high schools ham radio is becoming quite a popular hobby with the younger set. It is therefore also becoming increasingly important for the "Old Timers" to set a good example for the newcomers. That's it for this month and hope you liked the column.

Fred & Jim

## GUTTER DOPE

Listen on 40 CW for Novice KN-5GJN, Francis, who is 12 years old and has a lot of hamming to look forward to.

---

The San Antonio Radio Club is sponsoring a project to build kits or help build kits for any Ham or future Ham that is disabled and cannot do their own building. For information, contact a Club member or get in touch with W4ANZ/5, Andy, at 303 Ashland Dr., San Antonio 9, Texas or write to the Exciter, P. O. Box 62, San Antonio, Texas.

---

Glad to hear that W5UB, Irving Seligmann, is getting along OK after suffering a heart attack not long ago. 73 for a speedy recovery, Pappy.

---

Melvyn Alverez, K5QFV, in addition to pounding brass also pounds the keys of an organ at a local skating rink. During the daylight hours he makes with the electrons at Durhams Electronics school.

---

Like to run phone patches? Then have your call placed in the phone book. You will be listed in the R's under Ratio Amateur W5 . . . and it is guaranteed to get you plenty of calls (TVI?). The cost is 50 cents a month.

---

K5VCR is looking for some used mobile equipment. If anyone has any for sale give ole Charlie a call at TA 6-7741.

---

W4ANZ/5 is developing a complex because W5OSG's Quad is consistently beating out his beam.

---

Anyone interested in an informal Ham Ragchew is invited to have coffee with the group every Saturday morning at Skippers on Loop 410 (it use to was Loop 13) across from the International Airport.

---

The bowling bug has bitten some of the San Antonio Hams. Guess they will probably try to work all alleys. Hi!

---

When the Broadcast DX gets too strong for Hamming, W5JAJ and K5OCW play chess over the air. Your move Eddie.

---

Field Day is only four months away. So let's start making plans. Come to the club meetings and express your wishes or your ideas. Don't forget to start looking for all the things that will be impossible to find in June.

---

Carl Jockusch, K5CRU, is now operating portable 3 from Swarthmore, Pa. Carl is attending Swarthmore College and is using his DX 40 and HQ 129X.

---

K5FUE, Clinton, is a new General in Fredericksburg. His rig is a Globe 90 and a SX 25. His brother Paul is KN5FUD.

---

Congratulations to Reno Dammann who is now W5DLW. Reno is with the Perry Shankle Co.

Charlie, K5VCR, reports that he worked seven states in eleven contacts on six meters. Said it was just like Field Day. Incidentally, Charlie finally got around to setting his station clock to GMT. Of course the first try he was only off 60 minutes, Hi!

---

Wedding bells rang on Valentines Day for W5FND, Willard. Willard was Club president in 1960. Congratulations to both of them and our personal 73.

---

You may have recognized the printed circuit boards that appeared in Don Stoner's article in the January and February issues of CQ magazine concerning a transistorized two-meter station. Local hams were a little peeved that W5UB was not mentioned or given credit for the circuit boards. Irving says he doesn't really care for the credit, just the profit, Hi!

---

K5CYJ, Don, reports that he hopes to have a 432 Mc. marker beacon on the air real soon. The exact frequency is to be 432.00 with a tolerance of .0005%. Later on he says there may be a time signal added to the beacon. This is a real ambitious undertaking.

---

Two more local hams now have radioteletype facilities. They are W4-ANZ/5 and K5VCR. Andy and Charles have really been working to get their units on. Charles, K5VCR, has a word for those interested in starting RTTY. "DON'T"! Incidentally, Charlie was told by his XYL to quit bringing home radio gear or get a bigger house. So the next morning Charlie called a contractor and is having his house enlarged. Says he is building a room for his equipment. We think the room is for his family and he will take the rest of the house.

---

A couple of weeks ago W5HHO bought a new Volkswagen. Nothing so special about that. True, but it seems that two of his fellow workers at Southwest Research, are also Volks owners. Their calls? W5HHN & W5HHE.

**BILL CASE'S** **3522 BROADWAY**

*Sound*

**TA 2-1341**

**HIGH FIDELITY KITS**
**STEREO**
**AUDIO**

**A SOUND TRADITION IN THE SOUTHWEST**

THE EXCITER
P. O. BOX 62
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

BULK RATE
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 1029

George Munsch W5VPQ
5838 Navajo Rd.
Lynchburg, Va.

FORM 3547 REQUESTED